

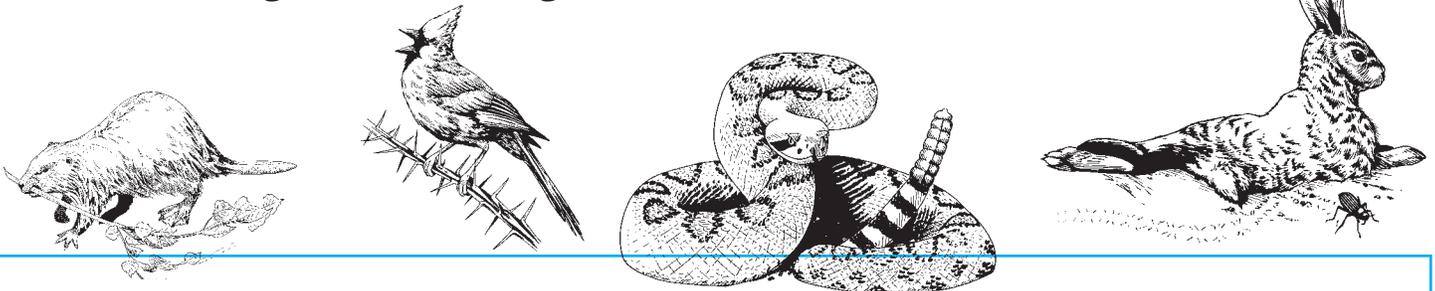
Animal Clue Cards!

At least 2 players are needed. However, the game can be played in a group, with players taking turns reading the clue cards.

Directions:

1. Click on the link below to find the Santa Cruz River Animal Clue Cards. Print out the cards, and cut along the dark black lines.
2. Choose one card without showing your partner or other players which Clue card you have. Make sure to read all the clues on the card before asking other players to guess or write down what he or she thinks the mystery animal is.

Take turns reading the clues on the cards. When the cards run out, whoever has guessed the right animal the most times wins!



[**Click here to view and print the Santa Cruz River Animal Clue Cards!**](#)

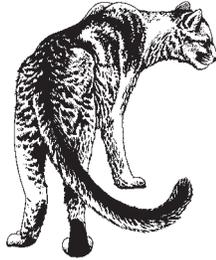


Activity adapted with permission from Sharing Nature with Children, by Joseph Cornell, Dawn Pubs, 1989 .

MOUNTAIN LION

Felix concolor

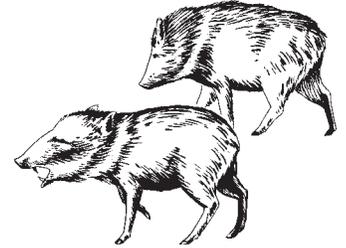
1. I am grayish-brown in color with lighter areas under my belly.
2. I look for food only at night.
3. Deer is my favorite food but I eat any animal I can catch.
4. I can weigh from 100 to 200 pounds and am 5 feet long not including my tail.
5. I have short round ears and yellow-green cat's eyes.
6. I am also known as a Cougar or Puma.
7. I am the largest cat native to the USA.
8. My cousin, after whom I am named, is known as king of the jungle in Africa.



JAVELINA

Dicotyles tajacu

1. I am busy both day and night.
2. I have 4 legs, a small tail, and my hair is very coarse and oily.
3. I cannot see well, but I have a good sense of smell.
4. I eat plants, shrubs and roots.
5. I do not like anything that gets too close and will attack if they do.
6. Although most of my teeth are flat, I have two big ones like tusks on an elephant.
7. I am considered to be a sloppy eater.
8. I look like and am often called a pig.



WHITE-TAILED DEER

Odocoileus virginianus couesi

1. I have large ears with white on the inside and gray-brown on the outside.
2. My teeth are not sharp and pointed, but flat.
3. I am small for my family and have a white tail.
4. I eat leaves, grass and twigs.
5. After my babies are born, they are left with only their color and spots to hide them.
6. I can run very fast and jump very high, even over fences.
7. Some of my kind have antlers.



RACCOON

Procyon lotor mexicanus

1. I am warm blooded with four legs.
2. I eat about anything I can get my hands on.
3. I am very nimble and can pick up just about anything with my hands.
4. I hunt and look for food mostly at night. I am about the size of a small dog.
5. I am often found near water where I hunt for and clean my food.
6. I travel in small groups with two or more brothers and sisters.
7. I have a large bushy tail with rings. Some people mistake me for a bandit.



MEXICAN GREY WOLF

Canus lupis

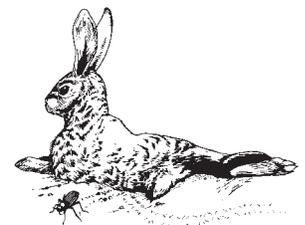
1. I have four legs and I am big.
2. I weigh 60 to 100 pounds.
3. I hunt for my food at night.
4. I prefer meat of larger animals such as deer.
5. I am 5 feet long, have a long nose, and short ears.
6. I can talk with howls, growls and yips.
7. My relatives were once found all over the United States.
8. My species was recently returned to remote parts of Arizona.
9. I look like a dog and some call me Lobo.



COTTONTAIL RABBIT

Sylbilagus audubonii

1. I can run and jump very fast.
2. I do not have a stationary home, but sleep under bushes.
3. My paws are very furry.
4. I am about the size of a small cat.
5. I have flat teeth with two bigger ones in the front.
6. People hunt me for my soft warm fur.
7. People consider me to be cute and imitate me at Easter.
8. Part of my name comes from my tail that looks like a ball of cotton.



STRIPED SKUNK

Mephitis mephitis

1. My ears are small and rounded.
2. I eat almost anything, but prefer insects.
3. I am about the size of a small cat and have a long bushy tail.
4. I am usually a very gentle animal but lots of other animals and people are afraid of me.
5. My body color is black with two white stripes down my back.
6. I have a big tail that helps me if I am being attacked.
7. Some people say I smell bad.
8. When I get mad, I lift my tail and spray.



SPOTTED SKUNK

Spilogale gracilis

1. My ears are small and rounded.
2. I eat almost anything, but prefer insects.
3. I am about the size of a kitten and have a long bushy tail.
4. My body color is black with various white spots on my face and body.
5. I am usually a very gentle animal, but lots of other animals and people are afraid of me.
6. I have a big tail that helps me if I am being attacked.
7. Some people say I smell bad.
8. When I get mad, I lift my tail and spray.



BEAVER

Castor canadensis

1. I am about the size of a small dog.
2. I am known as a great swimmer.
3. My feet are webbed like those of a duck.
4. I have a large, paddle-like tail.
5. I have large front teeth to chew wood.
6. If I don't chew wood, my teeth will grow too big and I will die.
7. Many years ago, people blamed me for starting a disease called malaria and kicked us all out of the southwestern rivers.
8. I was re-introduced to the San Pedro River.
9. I have a flat tail and like to build dams.



GRAY ROCK SQUIRREL

Spermophilus variegatus

1. I am about 20 inches long and grey in color.
2. I spend much of my time in the ground.
3. At the first sign of danger, I will slip quietly into my house and stay there until I am safe.
4. I have sharp teeth and strong claws.
5. I eat seeds, nuts, fruits, berries, grass seeds, cactus fruits, acorns and pine nuts.
6. I am in the same family as rats and mice.
7. I am considered to be cute but sometimes I have diseases like rabies or plague.



COYOTE

Canis latrans

1. I am a mammal found all over the United States.
2. I am a carnivore, but eat all sorts of things.
3. I like to run in groups.
4. I look pretty scroungy in the summer but have a beautiful coat in the winter.
5. I can talk with others of my kind by growls and yips.
6. I have a long dog-like nose.
7. I am often mistaken for my cousin who is the wolf, but he is much larger than I.
8. I am often seen howling at the moon.



BADGER

Taxidea taxus

1. I am short and very strong.
2. I have white markings on my face.
3. I eat mice, rats and squirrels, which I dig out of their homes in the ground.
4. I am a fighter and attack animals and people if cornered.
5. I am about 2 feet long and weigh 20 pounds.
6. I hunt for food only at night, and sleep in a different place every day.
7. I am mostly gray in color, and I have big claws about 1-1/2 inches long.
8. My babies are full grown in three months.



NORTHERN CARDINAL

Cardinalis cardinalis

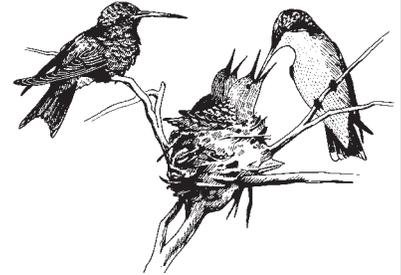
1. If I am male, my face and throat are black.
2. When I choose my mate, we are together forever.
3. I love to sing and whistle all year long.
4. My bill is very strong and shaped like a cone.
5. I have wings and can fly.
6. Seeds are my favorite food.
7. I have a pointed crest on the top of my head.
8. If I am a boy, I look like a Christmas ornament sitting in a tree.
9. My body is bright red!



BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD

Archilochus alexandri

1. I am always busy and rarely rest.
2. My home is lined with soft cobwebs.
3. I drink nectar from flowers and eat bugs.
4. Some of my species are about the size of a human's thumb.
5. I can fly forwards and backwards.
6. Sometimes people put food out for me in a glass jar, from which I drink with my long tongue.
7. I am one of the smallest birds and make a humming sound with my wings when I fly.



GILA WOODPECKER

Melanerpes uropygialis

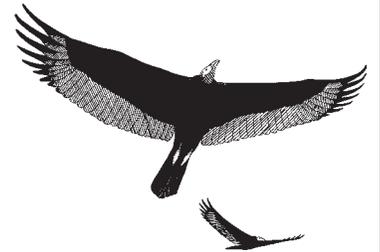
1. My mate and I raise our young together.
2. I am very noisy.
3. As a boy, I have a red spot on my head.
4. I have a zebra striped cape.
5. I live in holes that I make in big trees.
6. I eat insects, cacti, berries, and eggs of other birds.
7. I am very commonly seen along the Santa Cruz River and at Tumacácori.
8. I drum on trees or on your house.
9. Some people call me "Woody."



TURKEY VULTURE

Cathartes aura

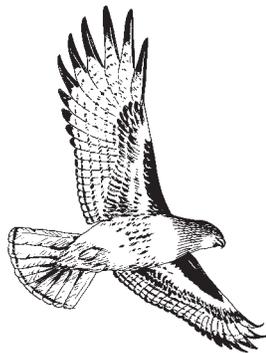
1. I am very quiet and rarely talk.
2. I live on cliffs or in trees with my friends.
3. In the morning, I sit stretched out and sun bathe to dry off.
4. You often see me from the highway circling in the sky.
5. I soar with "V" shaped wings and I hardly ever flap them.
6. I eat only dead animals.
7. I have no feathers on my head, which is bright red like a turkey.



RED-TAILED HAWK

Buteo jamaicensis

1. I have two legs.
2. I hunt rabbits, snakes and small mammals.
3. I am very large for my family.
4. My claws are big and sharp for grabbing my food.
5. My call is a high pitched whistle or screech (one falling note).
6. You may see me soaring above the highways, treetops or cliffs or on telephone poles.
7. Some people mistake me for an eagle.



GREATER ROADRUNNER

Geococcyx californianus

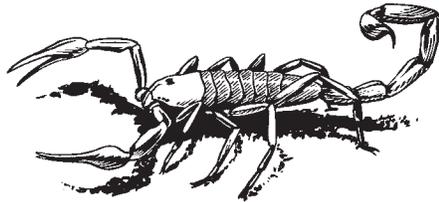
1. I eat all kinds of things, including lizards.
2. I live in desert bushes and grasses.
3. Sometimes you can hear my call which sounds like the clanking sound of coo coo-ah coo-ah.
4. I have a long body and tail.
5. I have two legs.
6. My feathers are dark brown with a little bit of green.
7. Although I have feathers, I don't usually fly.
8. I am known to run on roads.



GIANT DESERT HAIRY SCORPION

Hadrurus arizonensis

1. I am a southwestern desert arachnid.
2. My mother carries her young on her back.
3. I eat tiny insects.
4. I am found in desert washes, rocky areas, the open desert, and even in your house.
5. I am light brown with some yellow coloring.
6. I have two pincers with which I can hold and grab things.
7. I am poisonous, and you will be in pain if I sting you.
8. My tail curls and has a stinger at the



TARANTULA

Aphonopelma chalcodesa

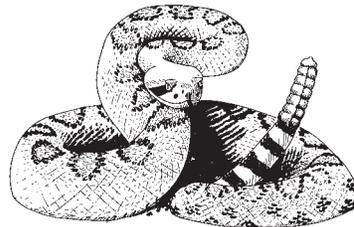
1. I have black hair on my body and legs.
2. My coloring varies from different shades of brown to black.
3. I live under the ground.
4. The female in my species will live in the same tiny cave her entire life.
5. I am very large for my species.
6. Even though I don't usually bite, I scare people so I have been in some movies.
7. Although my venom is poisonous to animals, I rarely hurt humans.
8. I have eight legs.



WESTERN DIAMONDBACK RATTLESNAKE

Crotalus atrox

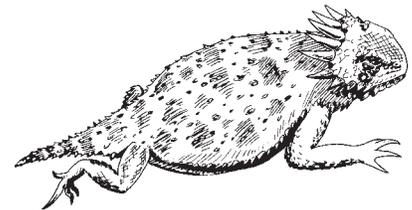
1. I can be found in the western part of the United States.
2. I come out to hunt usually at night.
3. I mostly eat rats, mice and gophers.
4. I produce poison and can be dangerous.
5. I am cold blooded.
6. I have two fangs and no other teeth.
7. When I am frightened, I will curl up like a garden hose, raise my tail and rattle it to warn you not to come close to me.
8. I have diamond shaped patterns on my back.



HORNED LIZARD

Phrynosoma solare

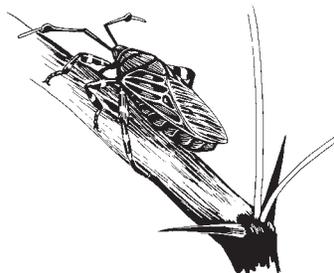
1. I am found only in the western United States and Mexico.
2. I like to eat insects and love ants.
3. I like to bury myself in the sand.
4. I am cold blooded.
5. When frightened I squirt blood from my eyes.
6. I have very rough skin that looks like scales.
7. Although I am only 3-1/2 to 6-1/2 inches long, some say I look like a small dinosaur.
8. Some call me a toad, but I am really a lizard.



GIANT MESQUITE BEETLE

Thasus gigas

1. I am found in desert areas above the ground and in the mesquite trees.
2. I am very large for my type of creature.
3. I love sucking up plant juice.
4. I have two antennas and six legs.
5. I am red, white and black.
6. I can be found in bunches on mesquite branches.
7. I am a fussy eater and will only drink the juice of the mesquite tree.



SPADE-FOOTED TOAD

Scaphiopus couchi

1. I spend most of my time underground.
2. I love to eat insects.
3. My rear feet resemble a spade.
4. I am cold blooded.
5. I will come out when it rains during the summer months.
6. I will lay my eggs in the water.
7. Kids like to catch me.
8. My skin is a dull brown, green and slippery.
9. I get around by hopping.
10. There is a story about me turning into a prince.

